4 March 2014

To all – Welcome.

I wanted to inform you about our Center's recent change of name. Maj Gen Brian Bishop, Commander, Spaatz Center for Officer Education, approved the change of name of the former Counterproliferation Center to the "Center for Unconventional Weapons Studies" effective 1 March 2014. The purpose of this name change was to better reflect the broader scope of the Center's education and research efforts. While the Center was originally founded to interject counterproliferation issues into Air Force professional military education in 1998, its portfolio quickly grew to include arms control and nonproliferation, combating WMD terrorism, and homeland security in the early 2000s. In 2011, the Air Staff assigned responsibilities to the Center to oversee nuclear professional continuing education at Kirtland AFB, in addition to our offering a Nuclear Research Issues Group elective for the Air War College. This broad scope necessitated a name change to reflect our current efforts.

Both nuclear deterrence and countering WMD are in the president's top defense priorities, and we remain dedicated to developing AF, DoD, and other US government leaders through education and research on those strategic national issues. We are in the process of updating our web site, and we have tweaked the design and focus of the Outreach Journal in response to a customer survey. I hope that you will find our web site and Twitter links of value, and that you will join us in the discussions of how unconventional weapons impact US national security issues.

Al Mauroni Director, USAF Center for Unconventional Weapons Studies